Atty Dkt. No.: LIFE-040/LFS-149

USSN: 09/988,494

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 44-49 are amended, claim 43 is cancelled and claims 52-63 are added as new, as shown below. A complete listing of the claims, including their current status, is provided below.

1. (Currently Amended) A reagent composition comprising:

a Group IIIA compound;

- a tetrazolium dye;
- a phenazine electron transfer agent; and
- a flavin agent present at a concentration that ranges from about 1 mM to about 25.
- 2. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said flavin agent is flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD).
 - 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said reagent composition comprises an analyte oxidizing signal producing system.
- 5. (Original) The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said analyte oxidizing signal producing system comprises an analyte oxidase.
- 6. (Original) The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said analyte oxidizing signal producing system comprises an analyte dehydrogenase.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said phenazine agent is phenazine ethosulfate (PES).

Atty Dkt. No.: LIFE-040/LFS-149 USSN: 09/988,494

8. (Original) The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said analyte oxidizing signal producing system further comprises an enzyme cofactor.

- 9. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said composition is a fluid composition.
- 10. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said composition is a dry composition.
 - 11-32. (Cancelled)
- 33. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said flavin agent and said tetrazolium dye are present at a molar ratio of about 0.02 to about 17.
 - 34. 42. (Cancelled)
 - 43. (Cancelled)
- 44. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim <u>1</u> 43, wherein said Group IIIA compound and said tetrazolium dye are present at a molar ratio of about 50 to about 800.
- 45. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim <u>1</u> 43, wherein said Group IIIA compound and said flavin agent are present a molar ratio of about 2 to about 800.
- 46. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim <u>1</u> 43, wherein said Group IIIA compound is present at a concentration that ranges from about 0.1 M to about 1.2 M.
- 47. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim $\underline{1}$ 43, wherein said Group IIIA compound is a boron compound.

Atty Dkt. No.: LIFE-040/LFS-149

USSN: 09/988,494

48. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim <u>1</u> 43, wherein said Group IIIA compound is borate or boric acid.

- 49. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim $\underline{1}$ 43, wherein said Group IIIA compound is an aluminum compound.
- 50. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said tetrazolium dye is present at a concentration that ranges from about 1.5 mM to about 50 mM.
- 51. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said phenazine electron transfer agent is present at a concentration that ranges from about 0.01 mM to about 50 mM.
 - 52. (New) A reagent composition comprising:
 - an aluminum compound;
 - a tetrazolium dye;
 - a phenazine electron transfer agent; and
 - a flavin agent present at a concentration that ranges from about 1 mM to about 25.
- 53. (New) The composition according to Claim 52, wherein said flavin agent is flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD).
- 54. (New) The composition according to Claim 52, wherein said reagent composition comprises an analyte oxidizing signal producing system.
- 55. (New) The composition according to Claim 54, wherein said analyte oxidizing signal producing system comprises an analyte oxidase.

Atty Dkt. No.: LIFE-040/LFS-149

USSN: 09/988,494

56. (New) The composition according to Claim 54, wherein said analyte oxidizing signal producing system comprises an analyte dehydrogenase.

- 57. (New) The composition according to Claim 52, wherein said phenazine agent is phenazine ethosulfate (PES).
- 58. (New) The composition according to Claim 54, wherein said analyte oxidizing signal producing system further comprises an enzyme cofactor.
- 59. (New) The composition according to claim 52, wherein said aluminum compound and said tetrazolium dye are present at a molar ratio of about 50 to about 800.
- 60. (New) The composition according to claim 52, wherein aluminum compound and said flavin agent are present a molar ratio of about 2 to about 800.
- 61. (New) The composition according to claim 52, wherein said aluminum compound is present at a concentration that ranges from about 0.1 M to about 1.2 M.
- 62. (New) The composition according to Claim 52, wherein said tetrazolium dye is present at a concentration that ranges from about 1.5 mM to about 50 mM.
- 63. (New) The composition according to Claim 52, wherein said phenazine electron transfer agent is present at a concentration that ranges from about 0.01 mM to about 50 mM.